UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.4/S-3/1/Add.1*
20 May 1994

Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Third special session
24-25 May 1994

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Note by the secretariat

1. It may be recalled that the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1990/48 of 25 May 1990, authorized the Commission on Human Rights to meet exceptionally between its regular sessions, provided that a majority of States members of the Commission so agree.

2. On 9 May 1994, the Acting Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations Office at Geneva submitted to the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights a letter addressed to the High Commissioner for Human Rights proposing to convene an extraordinary session of the Commission on Human Rights and expressing the belief of the Government of Canada that effective action to prevent further human rights violations must be a central element of the overall United Nations response to the tragedy in Rwanda (see E/CN.4/S-3/2).

---

* Re-issued for technical reasons.

3. On 9 May 1994, pursuant to decision 1993/286 of 28 July 1993 of the Economic and Social Council which established the procedure for convening special sessions of the Commission on Human Rights, the members of the Commission were requested to indicate their wishes in regard to this request, with a view to ascertaining whether the majority of the members agreed to the holding of a special session. At the time of preparation of the present document, the following members of the Commission have indicated agreement: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Togo, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

4. In the light of the agreement of the majority of its members, the Commission on Human Rights will be convened in its third special session on 24 May 1994.

5. It will be recalled that at its fiftieth session the Commission elected the following officers, who will constitute the Bureau for the third special session:

Chairman: Mr. Peter van WULFFTEN PALTHE (NETHERLANDS)

Vice-chairmen: Mr. José URRUTIA (PERU)
Mr. Romulus NEAGU (ROMANIA)
Mr. MINORU ENDO (JAPAN)

Rapporteur: Mr. François Xavier NGOUBEYOU (CAMEROON)

Item 1. Adoption of the agenda

6. The Commission will have before it the provisional agenda (E/CN.4/S-3/1) prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 5 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, as well as the annotations relating to the items included in the provisional agenda, contained in the present document.

Item 2. Organization of work

7. The Commission will recall that at its second special session, it accepted the recommendation of its officers regarding the limitation of the duration of statements. Members of the Commission, observers and representatives of non-governmental organizations were limited to one statement of 10 minutes. It was also agreed that, with regard to rights of reply, the practice followed by the Third Committee of the

General Assembly, namely a limitation to two replies, five minutes for the first and three minutes for the second, would be observed. The Commission also accepted the recommendation of its officers that the requirement stipulated in rule 52 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council should be waived.

Composition of the Commission

8. The composition of the Commission for 1994 is the following. (The term of membership of each State expires on 31 December of the year indicated in brackets.)

Angola (1994), Australia (1996), Austria (1996), Bangladesh (1994), Barbados (1994), Brazil (1995), Bulgaria (1994), Cameroon (1996), Canada (1994), Chile (1994), China (1996), Colombia (1994), Costa Rica (1994), Côte d'Ivoire (1996), Cuba (1994), Cyprus (1994), Ecuador (1996), Finland (1995), France (1995), Gabon (1994), Germany (1996), Guinea-Bissau (1995), Hungary (1996), India (1994), Indonesia (1996, Iran (Islamic Republic of) (1994), Italy (1996), Japan (1996), Kenya (1994), Lesotho (1994), Libyan Arab Jamahiriya (1994), Malawi (1996), Malaysia (1995), Mauritania (1996), Mauritius (1995), Mexico (1995), Netherlands (1994), Nigeria (1994), Pakistan (1995), Peru (1996), Poland (1995), Republic of Korea (1995), Romania (1995), Russian Federation (1994), Sri Lanka (1994), Sudan (1995), Syrian Arab Republic (1994), Togo (1995), Tunisia (1994), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (1994), United States of America (1995), Uruguay (1994), Venezuela (1996).

Item 3. Letter dated 9 May 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the High Commissioner for Human Rights

9. This letter, on the basis of which the present session is convened, is circulated as document E/CN.4/S-3/2.

10. The High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mr. J. Ayala Lasso, conducted a mission to Rwanda and Burundi from 9 to 12 May 1994. The Commission will have before it the report of the High Commissioner (E/CN.4/S-3/3).

11. In this connection, the attention of the Commission on Human Rights is likewise drawn to the report of the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, Mr. B.W. Ndiaye, on his mission to Rwanda (E/CN.4/1994/7/Add.1), which will also be made available.

Item 4. Report to the Economic and Social Council on the third special session

12. Rule 37 of the rules of procedure provides that the Commission shall submit to the Council a report, which shall normally not exceed 32 pages, on the work of each session, containing a concise summary of recommendations and a statement of issues requiring action by the Council. It shall, as far as practicable, frame its recommendations and resolutions in the form of drafts for approval by the Council.